In order to train large number of seamen so as to tap the vast potential in domestic and international market, admission to pre-sea training course has been liberalised and also issuance of Continuous Discharge Certificate (CDC), which would be freely issued to those who successfully completed training in approved institutes.

Financial Assistance

5667. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government provide assistance to the state Government for Health and Family Welfare Programme;

(b) if so, the details of financial assistance provided to States during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the total financial assistance the Union Government propose to give to Madhya Pradesh Government during 1997-98 ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c) A statement showing financial assistance provided to States during the last three years, year-wise, and proosed financial asisstance to be provided to Madhya Pradesh Government during 1997-98 in respect of major national health programmes is attached.

Statement

Financial Assistance provided to the States during 1994-95 to 1996-97 and proposed Financial Assistance to be provided to Madhya Pradesh Government during 1997-98

Name of the Programme	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (for Madhya Pradesh only)
National Malaria Eradication Programme	110.00	128.64	145.00*	8.07
National Leprosy Eradication Programme	89.10	64.36	66.39	3.84
National Tuberculosis Control Programme	32.15	41.20	52.07	3.49
National Programme for Control of Blindness	17.33	25.06	17.37	Not yet finalised.
National AIDS Control Programme	28.72	35.52	78.46	2.77
National Family Welfare Programme	1428.45	1390.24	1326.26	63.16

* Final adjustments awaited.

Purchase of Cashew Kernels

5668. SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government purchase good volume of cashew kernels for the use of defence service personnel;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted by the Government to purchase cashew kernels for defence forces;

(c) whether the Kerala State Cashew Development Corporation intends to sell their Kernels of defence services; and

(d) if so, the efforts made by the Government to purchase the same from them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir. The annual requirement of cashew kernels of consumption by Defence service personnel is about 40 MT.

(b) Cashew Kernels are procured on the basis of open tender system.

(c) and (d) Open tenders were floated by Army Service Corps, Northern Command in January, 1997. A tender set was sent to M/s Kerala State Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Quilon (Kerala) on their specific request, on 28th January, 1997 for soliciting their participation in tender enquiry, but no response was received from them.

[Translation]

Shortage of Blood

5669. SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :